

MINUTES
Mississippi Library Commission
Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting by Teleconference

March 24, 2020

Board of Commissioners (BOC) Present: Ann Marsh
BOC available through teleconference: Lori Barnes, Stephen Cunetto, Jolee Hussey and Becky Wright

Mississippi Library Commission (MLC) Staff Present: Hulen Bivins and James Dunaway
MLC staff available through teleconference: Lynn Burris, Ethel Dunn, Jennifer Peacock and Tracy Carr

Guests available through teleconference: Sara DeLoach, Special Assistant Attorney General and Jay Woods, Special Assistant Attorney General

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Marsh called the meeting to order at 11:03 a.m. and welcomed everyone.

AGENDA

Recommendation: *Adopt revised agenda as presented.*
Motion: Jolee Hussey; *Second:* Lori Barnes
Action: Approved

MINUTES

Recommendation: *Approve minutes of the regular meeting on January 28, 2020, with correction to change name of board secretary to Lori Barnes.*
Motion: Stephen Cunetto; *Second:* Becky Wright
Action: Approved

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

COMMISSIONERS REPORT

None

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Covid-19 Virus – Effective March 16, it was decided that MLC would close the building for employees, volunteers, and the public to protect against the Covid-19 virus. MLC recommended that public libraries cancel all library gatherings and consider closing to the public.

Budget – MLC remains optimistic about the FY21 budget request. The legislative session ends on May 10. The MLC budget request that was approved by the BOC is the same with three major priorities.

IMLS Conference – The meeting set for May 12-13, 2020 has been changed to a virtual format due to the corona virus situation nationally.

Employee Update – New hires include Kristen Hillman, Library Services (Talking Books) and Brian McGee, Administrative Services (Maintenance) and separations include Derrion Arrington, Library Services (Reference) and Cindy Nugent, Library Services (Talking Books) retired.

Grants – To date a total of \$712,580.65 has been expended for the Grants program.

MLC Day at the Capitol – On March 10, 2020, public librarians had an opportunity to meet with their legislators to advocate for Mississippi libraries. The experience was a success. March 11 has been reserved for the 2021 event.

MLC Business Services Report – The FY20 Semi-Annual Report on Performance Measures and the FY20 GAAP Inventory of Lease Contracts has been submitted.

Talking Books – Stats include: 71 new Talking Book users registered for the service; 34,786 items circulated with 7,169 BARD downloads, and 579 requests handled through Large Print Direct.

MLC Library Use Stats – Library Development Division provided 930.5 consulting hours of service working with public libraries on 93 occasions and made 13 visits. Also, 2,062 Beehive Resource Sharing requests filed, 17,688 titles cataloged, 96 training sessions provided to patent & trademark customers, 99 helpdesk tickets completed, 31 libraries participated in a one-on-one Erate workshop, 50,377,125 MAGNOLIA database searches, 2,419 learning express sessions, 467 RBDigital checkouts, 2,006 Hoopla use units, 11,466 followers on social media (Facebook – 3,120 likes and 3,450 followers, Instagram – 1,220 followers, Twitter – 2,322 followers, YouTube – 5,054 total film/webinar views/46 subscribers, and Podcast – 502 listens).

Newsletter – The latest edition of the Agency newsletter, *On the Same Page* was distributed on March 16.

Summer Reading Kickoff Event – Due to the health considerations of the corona virus, MLC as decided to cancel the Summer Reading Kickoff celebration.

Technology – No new information regarding AT&T and the Contract 5,000 project. There are currently 47 public library systems on 0365.

Other News – Bids of the roof repair project for the MLC building were more than budgeted, however, we have been assured the project is still on schedule.

Center for the Book – The Jackson-Hinds Library System has won the 2020 Jane Smith Literacy Award for their *“Our Reading Family”* project.

Congressional Meetings – The visits to Washington, D.C. on May 4-5, 2020 have been canceled by the American Library Association because of the corona virus situation.

Executive Director’s Visit – The MLC Executive Director recently participated in the dedication of the Toni James Room at the Sunflower Public Library.

Corona Virus – As this virus spreads, MLC discussed how public libraries are providing service to their patrons and protecting their staff.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Jennifer Peacock, Administrative Services Bureau Director provided the financial report. We are currently on target with expenditures but feel the virus will affect this picture. Grants will be affected for sure.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES BUREAU REPORT

The Administrative Services Report was provided by Jennifer Peacock, Bureau Director. She discussed the completed 0365 migration project and the successful one-on-one Erate workshop.

LIBRARY SERVICES BUREAU REPORT

Tracy Carr, Library Services Bureau Director provided this report. She discussed the disappointing RBDigital pilot program and the continued growth of the Hoopla program.

PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT

Susan Liles, Public Relations Director will be leaving the Agency at the end of March. PR work duties have been assigned to other staff.

ACTION ITEM

Recommendation: *Approve an educational waiver for Naomi Jones for a period of one year, starting March 1, 2020 for the Greenwood-Leflore Public Library System while an active search is made for a permanent, qualified director.*

Motion: Stephen Cunetto; *Second:* Jolee Hussey

Action: Approved

CALENDAR

Updated calendar of events provided.

OTHER

The Agency Anti-Harassment Policy has been approved and shared.

DISCUSSION ITEM

Recommendation: *Move date of May 2020 BOC meeting to May 19, 2020. It will be decided later if the meeting will be in person or virtual.*

Motion: Lori Barnes; *Second:* Becky Wright

Action: Approved

ADJOURN

Recommendation: *Adjourn meeting at 12:00 noon*

Motion: Lori Barnes; *Second:* Jolee Hussey

Action: Approved

The next regular meeting of the Mississippi Library Commission Board of Commissioners is scheduled for May 19, 2020, 11:00 a.m. in the main meeting room.

Lori Barnes

Lori Barnes (Aug 6, 2020 09:23 CDT)

Lori Barnes, Board Secretary

Aug 6, 2020

Date